



Feb. 24, 2012

This Week:

- Senate supplemental budget
- Skagit County Council of Governments meeting
- Mukilteo Project meetings
- Extraordinary efforts of the Puyallup crew
- Construction photos of new 144-car ferry
- Join Kitsap Regional Library's book club on the Seattle/Bainbridge Island route
- Reminder: Chilly Hilly bicycle event this Sunday on Bainbridge Island
- Farewell voyage of Rhododendron
- Ferry tale: Becoming a "Ferry Person"

Senate supplemental budget

The [senate supplemental budget](#) was released this week. As legislative session winds down, our focus turns to the supplemental budget remaining for the 2011-2013 biennium since it looks likely that long-term funding for the ferry system will not be addressed this session.

Skagit County Council of Governments meeting

This morning, I met with the Skagit County Council of Governments to provide an update on the ferry system. I presented on the overall funding picture, system-wide initiatives, and the Anacortes ferry routes. I appreciated the time and enjoyed answering questions from the council.

Mukilteo Project meetings

This was a busy week for the [Mukilteo Multimodal Terminal Project](#). I attended a meeting on Wednesday afternoon to review the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) with our project partners, including the Federal Transit Administration and U.S. Air Force. There were also two well-attended public hearings on the DEIS in Mukilteo on Wednesday night and Clinton, Whidbey Island, on Thursday evening. I appreciate everyone who took the time to attend a hearing and share their comments on plans for the Mukilteo terminal.

Extraordinary efforts of the Puyallup crew

On Monday, a 90-year-old passenger on the 202-car Puyallup collapsed and stopped breathing. The crew sprung to action and performed CPR to revive the customer. I want to congratulate Captain Charlie Allen and his crew for their quick thinking and action.

Construction photos of new 144-car ferry

I mentioned last week that construction began on the first new 144-car ferry. Today, I have [photos](#) to share with you of steel being cut and welded. This is a very exciting time for the ferry system and our customers! Learn more about the [new vessel construction program](#).

Join Kitsap Regional Library's book club on the Seattle/Bainbridge Island route

Kitsap Regional Library will host a book club on the Seattle/Bainbridge Island route the first Thursday of each month, starting March 8. To learn more about how to get involved visit [Kitsap Regional Library's website](#).

Reminder: Chilly Hilly bicycle event this Sunday on Bainbridge Island

Apologies for any confusion about the date from last week's report: the Chilly Hilly bicycle event is this Sunday, Feb. 26. Again, remember that limited vehicle traffic will be loaded on the Seattle departures to Bainbridge Island at 7:55 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 9:35 a.m. and 10:35 a.m. Sunday morning. Participating bicyclists will access the terminal for staging via the Marion Street gate. All off-loading vehicles from Bainbridge will exit south onto Alaskan Way.

Farewell voyage of Rhododendron

I would like to share a link to a [video](#) produced by Vashon Island customer Marc Pease capturing the last voyage of the Rhododendron on the Point Defiance/Tahlequah route. The last full day of operation for the 1947-era Rhododendron was Sun., Jan. 22.

Ferry tale: Becoming a "Ferry Person"

Read this week's ferry tale on our [blog](#).

Next Week:

- Fuel hedging committee
- Safety management system year-end review

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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